Self-sufficiency for foodgrains and oil seeds

3178. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to achieve self-sufficiency target of foodgrains and oilseeds in view of excess rainfall during current monsoon season and cheap loans to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): A number of schemes are being implemented to increase the production and productivity of foodgrains and oilseeds to attain self-sufficiency. Besides, under Macro-Management Mode twenty seven schemes have been sub sumed to provide flexibility to the State Governments in the implementation based on local requirements. There is adequate supply of inputs like fertilizers, seeds, pesticide to meet the situation of excess rainfall. In order to provide cheap credit to farmers the Government have been making continuous efforts to bring down the rate of interest on agricultural loans. All the Public Sector Banks have been advised to reduce their lending rates to not more than 9 per cent per annum on crop loans up to a ceiling of Rs. 50,000/-.

Terminal markets by NDDB

3179. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) in its report on horticulture marketing in the country, has suggested for setting up of four terminal markets in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details of other major suggestions received and action taken/proposed to be taken thereon;

(c) whether it is also a fact that several State Governments have recently approached the NDDB to help them set up horticulture auction markets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTUR (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.